

Claims

1. A note (1,17) such as a banknote or security note, said note (1,17) comprising a substrate having a zone of reduced thickness (2,7,18) forming a transparent window in said substrate, characterised in that the note further comprises reinforcing means (3,4,8,10,11,14,19,20,22) to increase the resistance of said zone.
2. A note as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that said substrate is made of a paper substrate.
3. A note as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterised in that said reinforcing means comprise at least a strip of material (3,8,10,14,19) covering at least said zone of reduced thickness on at least one side of said substrate.
4. A note as claimed in claim 3, characterised in that said strip of material is a transparent polymer material.
5. A note as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterised in that said reinforcing means comprise a patch (4,11,20,22) of material covering at least said zone of reduced thickness, said patch being formed by a partially demetallized OVD patch placed on at least one side of said note.
6. A note as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterised in that said reinforcing means further comprise an additional security feature (9,15,23).
7. A note as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterised in that said reinforcing means (9,15,23) are placed on both sides of said note.
8. A note as claimed in one of claims 3 to 7, characterised in that said reinforcing means comprise a strip (14) on one side of said substrate and a patch (11) on the other side of said substrate.

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9. A sheet of substrate (16) characterised by a plurality of notes as defined in any of claims 1 to 8.

10. Process for producing notes, such as banknotes or security notes, said notes comprising a substrate having a zone of reduced thickness forming a transparent window in said substrate, said process being characterised by the step of covering at least said zone on at least one side of said substrate with reinforcing means.

11. Process according to claim 10, characterised in that it comprises the step of covering said zone with reinforcing means on both sides of said substrate.

12. Process according to claim 11, characterised in that said reinforcing means comprise at least a strip or a patch of material.

13. Process according to one of claims 10 to 12, characterised in that it further comprises the step of providing said reinforcing means with an additional security feature.